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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Jim Leach
House of Representatives
2186 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Leach:

This is in reply to your letter of February 11, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Philip L. Vernon, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituent is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituent's concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituent's letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final

Congressional

DUE 3-16-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
03/05/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9301064	03/05/93	02/11/93	03/25/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Jim Leach	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Philip L Vernon	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/LM 3-9-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
03/05/93	3/9/93		

REMARKS:

JAMES A. LEACH
1ST DISTRICT, IOWA



COMMITTEES
BANKING, FINANCE AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

PRB
92-235
1064

February 11, 1993

Donna Searcy
Federal Communications
Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Ms. Searcy:

I am taking the liberty of forwarding the enclosed letter concerning the proposed revisions to the Private Land Mobile Radio Services (PR Docket No. 92-235).

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Jim Leach
Member of Congress

JL:ccr

Enclosure

FEB 8 1993

Philip L. Vernon
3230 N. Willow Ct. Apt #1
Bettendorf, IA 52722
Phone (319) 332-6593

February 4, 1993

The Honorable Jim Leach
209 W. 4th Street
Davenport, IA 52801

Dear Mr. Leach:

I have been interested in aviation since I was a child and now spend most of my free time building and flying remote control model airplanes. I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

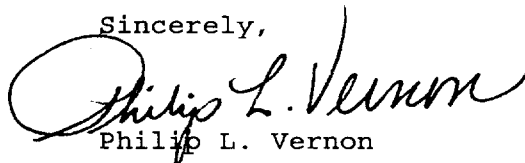
Model radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. At present, model radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The FCC now wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I understand that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build, but more importantly, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of the present full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek improvement of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposed changes for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,


Philip L. Vernon